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December 16, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street, SW  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Docket No. 12-375**

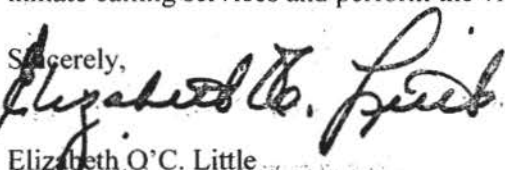
Dear Secretary Dortch:

I am writing in response to the *Report and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Rates for the Interstate Calling Services* (Docket No. 12-375), issued on September 26, 2013. I have heard from many County Sheriffs on this order and am greatly concerned with the impact this order will have on the county jails in my Senate District.

Although I understand the purpose of reducing the rate to ensure that inmates can continue to have contact with their families while they are incarcerated, I respectfully request that the implementation date of this rule be postponed. County governments have acted on their budgets for the year and have not accounted for the loss of funding that will be incurred due to this rule change. This order is especially worrisome for smaller county jails that experience high turnover rates of inmate populations. These inmate calling systems are built to the unique needs of each jail and provide a variety of important safety and security components. The one size fits all approach of the order does not provide counties with the ability to account for any additional costs that smaller facilities may face and will force any of these additional costs onto the local tax payers.

I respectfully request that the date of implementation be postponed from February 11, 2014 to a later date so that counties can come up with the financial resources necessary to continue to administer inmate calling services and perform the vital security functions that are required to protect the public.

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth O'C. Little  
New York State Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> District

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